## HONORS FOR DR. JOEL FELDMAN AND EDMUND SHAMSI

### HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 30, 2003*

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I have been greatly honored over the past several years to be able to share with my colleagues and the country the great respect I have for the work of the New England Chassidic Center, and of ROFEH International. Under the leadership of Grand Rabbi Levi Horowitz, both of these institutions provide significant service to the people of Greater Boston. ROFEH International, founded under the Rabbi's leadership, plays an extraordinarily important role in helping people take advantage of the extraordinary medical facilities that exist in the Greater Boston area. Annually, the work of these two organizations is celebrated at a dinner. This year that dinner will take place on November 16, in the Grand Ballroom of the Boston Park Plaza Hotel. The dinner features among other things two awards to people who have performed through these organizations great service to others. The recipients of the ROFEH International Distinguished Service Award and the Man of the Year Award are always people of great professional distinction who have shown a deep dedication to the well being of others, and have used their great talents to that end.

This year's Man of the Year is Mr. Edmund I. Shamsi. The ROFEH Distinguished Service Awardee is Dr. Joel Feldman. Mr. Speaker, we talk often of the importance of volunteerism in achieving the quality of life that all of us want in this country, and I think it is important that we share examples of this. I therefore ask that the biographies of Edmund Shamsi and Dr. Joel Feldman be printed here, as an example of volunteerism at its best, and to mark the occasion of the Annual Dinner.

MAN OF THE YEAR AWARD—MR. EDMUND I. SHAMSI

Edmund I. Shamsi was born in Teheran, Iran, in 1945. When Ed was four, his father—a successful business merchant—decided to make aliyah. As was the norm for Mideastern families immigrating to Israel in the mid-century, the Shamsis found themselves in a refugee camp. They spent six months in Pardes Hannah and then another six months in Pardes Kats, near Tel Aviv.

The Shamsis eventually settled in B'nai Brak, where Ed attended school. In his sophomore year of high school, Ed relocated to Ohio, where he concluded his primary school education. Ed obtained admission to Kent State University and successfully completed his freshman year. Responding to a greater call, he returned to Israel amid his studies, and enlisted in the Israeli army.

Upon discharge, Ed returned to America to complete his education, this time at Boston University. Ed put himself through BU by working as a truck driver during the summers, as a cabdriver on vacations and as a Hebrew teacher at a local synagogue.

Post-graduation, Ed worked in the merchandizing department of Zayre Corp. This kindled Ed's interest in real estate; he bought a single-family house at auction, developed it and sold it. Thus, the genesis of Ed's real estate career.

In 1972, Edmund married Helene. Together, they are the proud parents of three children: Joshua Jacob Sasson, Benjamin Elazar David and Esther Pnina.

In his capacity as president of the Sephardic synagogue in Boston, Ed provides leadership for the Boston community at large. To supplement this niche, Ed also serves as president of Boston Group Development, Inc. and develops and manages real estate properties in the United States, Israel and the Ukraine. To date, Ed still holds residences in Brookline, MA and Jerusalem, Israel.

ROFEH INTERNATIONAL DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Dr. Joel J. Feldman was born in New York, NY in 1943. He spent his childhood years growing-up in Great Neck, Long Island, NY.

A Dartmouth College and Harvard Medical School graduate, Dr. Feldman completed his general residency at Massachusetts General Hospital and his plastic surgery residency at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore. He is currently a member of the American Association of Plastic Surgeons (AAPS), and former board member of the American Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery (ASAPS). His resume also features a past presidency at the Northeastern Society of Plastic Surgeons.

In an interview with the ''Job Explainer'' section of The Boston Globe (March 16, 2003), Dr. Joel Joseph Feldman—employee of Mount Auburn Hospital in Cambridge, as well as Associate Clinical Professor of Surgery at Harvard Medical School—discussed the motivation for his concentration on facial plastic surgery. ''[T]he face is one of the most complicated regions of the body and that's what the world sees,'' he explained, ''These patients have so many scars and burn marks throughout their body, [sic] restoring them to a point where they feel comfortable is what I love to do.''

Dr. Feldman devotes ''a significant portion of [his] time to teaching nationally and overseas.'' He instructs aspiring plastic surgeons in the latest techniques, like his own innovative method for repositioning healthy tissue so as to cover facial disfigurement.

Married to Diane Feldman for 37 years. Dr. and Mrs. Feldman met in elementary school in Great Neck, NY. Diane is a professional artist. They now live in Belmont, MA. They have two sons: Brad Feldman and Jeffrey Feldman. Brad, age 36, is an ESPN TV international league professional soccer announcer and currently is the TV announcer and head of communications for the New England Revolution Soccer Team. Brad is married to Elizabeth Graham, a government and community relations director for Comcast. They have a 3-year-old daughter, Miriam—also known as Mira and The Pepper. Brad, Liz and Mira live in Lexington, MA. Dr. and Mrs. Feldman's other son, Jeff is 33. He lives in Los Angeles and is a real estate developer.

## TRIBUTE TO MIKE HAMMAR, SR.

### HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 30, 2003*

Mr. CORDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Mike Hammar, Sr., an exemplary Californian who passed away on August 6, 2002 at the age of 57.

Mr. Hammar was born on February 19, 1945, in Bixby, Oklahoma, and he grew up in Sapulpa, Oklahoma, where he was surrounded by a large extended family headed by his Grandfather, Legus, with whom he was extremely close. As a child, Mr. Hammar was a natural athlete, excelling in football, basketball and baseball. In addition, Mr. Hammar was a skilled outdoorsman, participating in bass fishing tournaments, trap-shooting events, and black powder musket shoots. Mike Hammar also was talented in the world of music, playing with several local blues and county bands. He was a gifted songwriter and accomplished musician, proficient on several different instruments, but enjoying lead guitar and bass the most.

In 1961, Mike Hammar moved to Atwater, California, and while attending Atwater High School he met his future wife, Joyce Cabezut, and after their marriage, Mr. Hammar was welcomed with open arms into a new larger family, as the Cabezuts loved him as one of their own.

Mr. Hammar, a tribal member of the Creek Nation of Oklahoma, was best known for his service to local and national Native American organizations, where he worked tirelessly to improve the delivery of health care throughout California Indian country. To this end, Mr. Hammar diligently served many organizations including the Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation of Mariposa County, the MACT Indian Health Board, the California Rural Indian Health Board, the National Indian Health Board. He was also the Chief Financial Officer of the California Natural Resource Foundation.

Mr. Hammar was no stranger to Washington, DC. He advocated to members of both his House and the Senate for support of Native American programs and was often contacted by both states and the federal government to give input on Native American issues.

Mr. Speaker, Mike Hammar, Sr. was a man of many talents who loved to help others. His endearing personality and good nature yielded a wealth of warm relationships everywhere he went or worked and he is sorely missed by all those whose lives he touched.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that all of my colleagues join me in posthumously acknowledging the contributions and honoring the memory of a great Californian, an advocate for Native Americans, and a pillar of our society, Mr. Mike Hammar, Sr.

## TRIBUTE TO MOTHER TERESA OF CALCUTTA

### HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 30, 2003*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mother Teresa of Calcutta to honor her beatification by Pope John Paul II in Rome, Italy on October 19, 2003.

As many of you know, Mother Teresa had a profound effect on millions of lives during her lifetime. She was born in Albania in 1910 and became a Roman Catholic sister in 1928. After teaching to over 500 students in St. Mary's School at the convent in Calcutta, she founded a religious order in 1948. The order, Missionaries of Charity, aims to reach out to the poor and suffering in whatever capacity possible to ease their pain and provide love and hope. In 40 years, the order increased from one to more than 400 missions around the world.

Few people in our history have done more to aid their fellow human beings than Mother Teresa. Her selfless efforts have been recognized in numerous ways, including a Nobel